

February 19, 2008

STATE OF ALABAMA,
LIMESTONE COUNTY,
CITY OF ATHENS.

The City Council of the City of Athens, Alabama, met in special session in the Limestone County Annex Commissioner's Office located at 100 South Clinton Street Annex on the second floor in the Conference Room on February 19, 2008, at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by John M. Crutcher, President of the City Council, who acted as chairman of the meeting. Upon roll call, the following were found to be present: Councilmembers Johnny Crutcher, Harold Wales, Jimmy Gill, Ronnie Marks and Mildred Caudle. Mayor Dan Williams was present. John Hamilton, City Clerk, recorded the Minutes of the Meeting. The Chairman stated that a quorum was present and that the meeting was open for the transaction of business.

Councilman Wales moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2008-1043

A RESOLUTION OF THE ATHENS CITY COUNCIL EXPRESSING UNANIMOUS AND STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT RESTRICTING FURTHER ANNEXATION INTO LIMESTONE COUNTY BY CITIES LOCATED OUTSIDE THE COUNTY

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Athens wishes to express its *strong, unequivocal, and unanimous support* for the proposed constitutional amendment restricting further annexation into unincorporated Limestone County by those cities that are not located wholly within Limestone County, Alabama;

WHEREAS, cities located outside of Limestone County are annexing unincorporated property within Limestone County at an alarming and haphazard rate;

WHEREAS, such unfettered annexation has an undeniable and significant negative impact on the public schools in Limestone County by impairing their ability to plan responsibly for the future, predict future revenues and student populations, and receive tax revenues from annexed areas;

WHEREAS, such unfettered annexation has an undeniable and significant negative impact on the Limestone County Commission and the City of Athens by impairing the ability to plan and allocate resources for the future (including impacts on utilities, law enforcement, etc.);

WHEREAS, it appears that the cities of Huntsville and Madison are racing towards the Athens city limits and the I-65 corridor in an attempt to "land grab" with little consideration for the efficient provision of services for Limestone County citizens and the impact of such unfettered annexation upon the Limestone County local governments and the Limestone County schools;

WHEREAS, in the event that such cities believe further annexation into Limestone County is necessary, the proposed constitutional amendment would yield the fairest solution possible -- by resulting in a situation where both the annexing city and the Limestone County Commission would both be required to agree before there could be further annexation (and failing that, that the voters of Limestone County could decide whether to allow such annexation);

WHEREAS, this is an issue of the utmost importance to the voters of Limestone County, Alabama;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, ALABAMA on February 19, 2008 at 10:00 a.m., that the Athens City Council unanimously and strongly supports the proposed constitutional amendment to restrict further annexation into Limestone County by those cities that are not located wholly within its borders, and urges the legislative delegation of Limestone County, Alabama to support such legislation without hesitation. The City Council furthermore strongly opposes any modification of the proposed constitutional amendment that would change its effect in any way, or attempt to lessen its restrictions on such annexations.

ADOPTED and APPROVED this, the 19th day of February, 2008.

/s/ John M. Crutcher
PRESIDENT, CITY COUNCIL,
CITY OF ATHENS, ALABAMA

/s/ Dan Williams
MAYOR, CITY OF ATHENS, ALABAMA

ATTEST:

/s/ John S. Hamilton
CITY CLERK, CITY OF ATHENS, ALABAMA

CERTIFICATION OF CITY CLERK

STATE OF ALABAMA)
LIMESTONE COUNTY)

I, John Hamilton, City Clerk of the City of Athens, Alabama, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Athens, Alabama, on the 19th day of February, 2008.

Witness my hand and seal of office this ____ day of _____, 2008.

John Hamilton, City Clerk

The motion was seconded by Councilman Gill and was unanimously carried.

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There being no further business to come before the meeting, the same was, upon motion by Councilman Marks and second by Councilman Wales, duly and properly adjourned.

/s/ John M. Crutcher
PRESIDENT, CITY COUNCIL

ATTEST:

/s/ John S. Hamilton
CITY CLERK